

Personal News, Facts, Fancies and Brief Happenings Abroad as Told by the Cables

CATHOLICS HOLD
ITALY'S FATE IN
THEIR HANDS

Have Balance of Power in Chamber and Can Upset Cabinet Any Time.

SOCIALISTS HAVE MORE
Latter Always Against Government, but Catholics So Far Support Nitti.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.
ROME, April 17.—The Italian Popular party, which is better known in America as the Catholic party, is holding a national congress in Rome in an endeavor to outline a definite parliamentary policy. Since the last general elections, in November, 1919, during which this party grew to the present impressive size, the Catholic leaders have been trying to fix a political programme, but as yet they have not succeeded.

In the course of the recent reorganization of the Nitti Cabinet the Italian people in general were looking to this party for the solution of the inconsistent and unbearable parliamentary situation, which could be brought about only by the Catholics' full cooperation with the Government. But when the latter refused to accept Nitti's invitation to allow some of their members to take part in the new Cabinet the country was sadly disappointed in them.

The Catholics, or "Popolari," as they are called in Italy, hold the balance of power in the Chamber of Deputies. They have a compact mass of 103 votes. The Socialists have 156. This leaves 250 votes divided among the various other parties, such as the Liberals, the Radicals, the Communists, the Nationalists and the Republicans. The Government cannot always depend on the support of the last three groups, which aggregate about forty votes. The Socialists will always vote against the Government.

Any time the Catholics decide to give an unfavorable vote the ministry will fall. Should they decide to vote against the Government systematically, as the Socialists do, chaos would result in the Chamber. In that event the King, advised by his ministers, would be compelled to dissolve the chamber and order a new election.

But at the present time neither the Catholics nor the Socialists, who represent the two large groups of the opposition, want a new appeal to the voters, for they are both afraid to be disappointed in the Catholics. Because of the unreasoning and undisciplined behavior of the Socialists in Parliament and in the streets, the Government has been compelled to vote, in every instance, in favor of the Government. But the several votes of confidence that the Catholics have given to party expediency with them and not a desire to cooperate with the ministry.

The great problem the Catholics must face is whether they will work for their country or for their party, and in making the final decision they must bear in mind that the voters who sent them to Parliament care infinitely less about their party than they do about their country.

The idea that the Catholics may make common cause with the Socialists and assume the control of the Government must be discarded entirely. The rivalry for predominance between these two groups and the struggle for power, which has been going on since the last few months, have convinced even the most casual observer that they are irreconcilable and that they will never cooperate.

INCREASED POSTAGE
PROPOSED IN BRITAIN

Protests Abound Against Additional Half-Penny.

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LONDON, April 17.—The proposal to increase the British rate of postage for home letters to two pence (4 cents) instead of three half-pence as at present, has caused a large amount of comment, and if the increase is carried out it will be the first time since 1845 that the rate of postage has been increased.

It is interesting to recall that this was the rate originally proposed by the committee, which considered Rowland Hill's scheme of universal penny postage in 1838. Hill, however, got his own way in the matter.

On two subsequent occasions there were rumors of an advance to two pence. One year after the introduction of penny postage Sir Robert Peel's Government being pressed for revenue cast longing eyes on the extra penny, but no advance was made.

Financial pressure during the Crimean War brought about suggestions of an increase, but Sir Rowland Hill in a confidential report succeeded in convincing the Cabinet that temporary benefits to the revenue would probably be more than counterbalanced in the long run by the check on correspondence.

The Postmaster-General took advantage of the American War tax as an example to force the present increased charges, and with the decline in the profits of the post office, due to increased charges for both labor and materials, penny postage is unlikely to be again the rule for many years.

BRITAIN RELIES ON THE DUTCH

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

LONDON, April 17.—It was authoritatively stated here today that the British Government was not concerned over the movement of German troops in the Munster area near the Dutch frontier. The British Government, it was stated, is satisfied that the Dutch Government will effectively guard the Rhine frontier.

LAST STAND OF
DENIKINE ARMY
IN NOVOROSSISK

Hungry, Ragged and Beaten Soldiers Reach Black Sea Under Fire.

PANIC AMONG CIVILIANS
British and French Ships Rescue 10,000 at Wharves as Bolsheviks Enter City.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.
PARIS, April 17.—The last days of Gen. Denikine's anti-Bolshevik Russian army, on which the Allies based hopes of exterminating Bolshevism and which last summer was sweeping all before it and seemed victoriously on the way to Moscow, are described in a picturesque despatch from a French correspondent who followed the fortunes of the vanquished troops throughout their last retreat. The story is not without its pathetic side, for the defeated leader is described as pacing the quay while his hungry, half-clad soldiers sought refuge aboard British and French warships in the harbor of Novorossiysk and Bolshevik guns roared a pean of victory from the Soviet line, less than fourteen miles away.

The final conflict commenced on the morning of March 24 and the foreign missions at Novorossiysk were forced to take shelter on the French cruiser Waldeck Rousseau. The soldiers of Denikine's army surged into the villages surrounding the town, establishing a centre of resistance at the headquarters of the English mission. A steady stream of wounded from the front areas brought stories of useless opposition. Officers and men alike were disheartened and awaited the inevitable result of the onslaught of superior numbers.

Reds Demand Surrender.
Next day the Bolsheviks demanded the surrender of the volunteer army, promising that the "proletariat" and "peasantry" would be spared. Denikine's officers, who they had not feared if they laid down their arms and aided in the restoration of Russia, according to the Soviet programme. Having no confidence in the Bolshevik promises and seeing no hope of success, the average man in the army, besides sweeping continually toward the same protective point, the shelter of the allied cruisers.

By the morning of March 26 the Bolsheviks, less than five miles away, had received a warning of the Allies' presence by the English and French ships, each firing a dozen long range shots. Gen. Denikine himself sought refuge aboard an English cruiser, being unable to direct the troop movements.

The centre of the city was soon deserted and many fires broke out, while the same evening incendiary shells were fired at the station, increasing the fear of the inhabitants and casting a weird glow over the last preparations for a final stand. The British mission had to be evacuated and a small group of 500 cavalry and 2,000 untrained, ragged infantry, supporters of Denikine, sought a position whence to defend the city.

Gen. Denikine a Refugee.
Meanwhile, Gen. Denikine arrived aboard a Russian torpedo boat and surveyed this scene of lamentable horror. Maintaining the strong interest in the welfare of his forces which made him beloved as a leader, he pleaded with the commanders to return to the wharves and pick up as many as possible. The French destroyer Enseigne Roux executed a difficult manoeuvre and rescued the enemy's flag, while the Russian vessels picked up the remainder and under cover of darkness the enemy's fire and succeeded in rescuing more than three hundred Russians. Russian vessels picked up the remainder and under cover of darkness the enemy's fire and succeeded in rescuing more than three hundred Russians.

According to the correspondent, allied assistance resulted in saving 10,000 lives, while as many more succeeded in reaching the Georgia boundary with the assistance of the Don Cossacks. The Russian army, which was a proud, highly disciplined and effective force, is believed to have met death at the hands of the Soviet troops. It is known that scores of Russian soldiers, committed suicide as a better alternative than the cruelty known to have been practised upon prisoners by the Bolsheviks.

LADY CURZON TO BE
MR. MOSLEY'S BRIDE

Daughter of Former Miss Leiter Is Brilliant Girl.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

PARIS, April 17.—With the intention of placing the French merchant marine on a basis which will enable it to effect the shipment of foodstuffs from the French colonies without the assistance of ships of other nations, the Ministry of Finance expects to provide for a credit of 1,000,000,000 francs for the construction of new vessels. An additional 200,000,000 francs will be voted for improving French fishing ports.

The latter provision is deemed essential, following the Government's announcement that after June 1 the importation of frozen meats from the United States and Australia will cease, the Government relying on the increased French fishing industry to provide the nation with a food that is equally as substantial as meat.

Transport facilities are blamed by the meat companies as the cause of the high cost of living, millions of tons of frozen meat in this now lying on French piers awaiting transit to the interior of the republic. Representations are being made in official quarters that unless inland transportation is improved the prospect facing a fish diet on the French coast will result in doubling the price of what is now France's cheapest food.

English Daughters of American Mothers.



AMERICANS AMONG
SALON EXHIBITORS

Paintings by Cameron Burnside and Some 25 Others From This Country Shown.

FADS SCARCE THIS YEAR

French Artists More Inspired by Montmartre Types Than Ancient Doctrines.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

PARIS, April 17.—Modern fads and artistic tendencies are scarce in this year's salon of the National Society of Beaux Arts, which opened this week. Among the five hundred exhibitors, who are mostly French, are some twenty-five American painters of both sexes.

The salon, according to critics, closely approached those of the early nineties. Only one cubist entered, and his work was a mild specimen of cubism. The Dadaists, Francis Picabia among them, have avoided the salon entirely. There are very few war pictures. The preference is for landscapes, portraits and religious subjects. Allegories are falling off.

Public interest centres in the strong landscapes and portraits of Grix, Jules Flaminio and Louis Chabot. The last named is regarded by some as a new master of sober color effects.

Among the American exhibitors are Cameron Burnside, with "Toilette" and "Scottie de Bain." Three pictures of Frederic Carl Frieske are among the most cheerful of the salon. These are "Au Soleil," "Femme en Bleu" and "Ete." Louis Rittman exhibits "Gaby" and "Le Promenade." Miss Cecilia Beaux shows a portrait of Cardinal Mercier. Eugene Paul Ullman, Eleanor Brooks and Edwin Scott each exhibits three pictures. Other American exhibitors are Mattie Scott, Francis Thomson, Nelda Audibert, Romaine Brooks, J. Barry Greene, Alexander Harrison, Lucille Hitt, Robert Ward Johnson, Fulton Looney, Elizabeth Nourse, Myron O. Nutting and Grace Ravlin.

A striking characteristic of the salon is the absence of idealistic nudes. French artists apparently are inspired more by Montmartre types than by ancient art doctrines.

FRANCE WOULD CUT
HIGH COST OF LIVING

New Ships to Transport Food From Colonies.

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Above—Earl Curzon of Kedleston, walking with his daughters, Lady Cynthia Curzon (to left) and Lady Alexandra Curzon (to right). Their mother was Mary Leiter of Chicago, and they will inherit a large part of her fortune. Lady Cynthia's engagement to Mr. Oswald Mosley, M.P., was recently announced. Below—Viscountess Maidstone, formerly Miss Margaretta Drexel of Philadelphia, and her two daughters, the Hon. Daphne Finch-Hatton, aged 7 (to right), and the Hon. Henrietta Finch-Hatton (to left).

ROYALTY ATTENDS
FANCY DRESS BALL

Devonshire House Is Scene of Notable Gathering to Aid Charity Fund.

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LONDON, April 17.—A notable event in the renaissance of social events long forbidden by war was the fancy dress ball of Wednesday night at Devonshire House, organized by the Duchess of Albany for charity. The celebrated mansion has been for 300 years the scene of many brilliant assemblages, but last night it was the scene of a picture dress of Nattier blue. Among the most interesting costumes was that of Candida, Marchioness of Tweeddale, who wore a historic gown in velvet. Her daughter-in-law, Lady Edw. Hay, wore a Romney picture dress. Countess Curzon was in pale pink, and Lady Newton wore a gown of cream and gold brocade that she wore on her wedding day. Princess Alice was in daffodil yellow, on which was arranged her own Honiton point lace. Princess Helena, Victoria's only daughter, was in blue and silver brocade. Many of the gowns worn by the French women were made in Paris after study of pictures.

The ball was for the Albany Institute Welfare Work of the Deptford Fund.

Of the French women, the Comtesse de Montebello wore a gown of orange and gold, and the Comtesse de Bismarck was in blue and silver brocade. Many of the gowns worn by the French women were made in Paris after study of pictures.

The ball was for the Albany Institute Welfare Work of the Deptford Fund.

PETROL PRINCES
OF BRITAIN IN
THE SPOTLIGHT

Soaring Price of Gasoline Brings Them Sharply to Public Notice.

IN INTERLOCKING GROUP
List Includes Sir Marcus Samuel and Lord Cowdray of Mexican Fame.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

LONDON, April 17.—With the price of petrol rapidly mounting and now hovering, perhaps temporarily, near three shillings a gallon, the men who are in control of Great Britain's supply of this necessary source of power are in the calcium light. At the head of this group of "Petrol Princes," of course, stands Sir Marcus Samuel, the "Oil King" of England. Thereafter comes Sir Charles Greenway, Sir John T. Cartill, Lord Cowdray, H. W. A. Detering, Waley Cohen and F. E. Powell. The interests of these "Petrol Princes" are closely interwoven, all of them being connected with several companies.

That England has been hard hit by the rapid advance in the price of petrol is a very well known. From the man who drives a low priced automobile to the manufacturer who derives power from gasoline there has gone up a wall that has been heard across the Atlantic. Commissions have investigated the high price of gasoline and commissions still are investigating it. There have been recommendations and the "passing of the buck," but the price continues to soar, and the end is not yet. Protests have been raised against the alleged ownership by the Government of shares of some of the large petroleum concerns which are growing rich selling petroleum to the British people. Two-thirds of the shares of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company are held by the Government.

INTERESTING PERSONALITIES.

The men who head these big concerns are interesting personalities, and British newspaper readers, always interested in biographical sketches of persons who have powerful control of affairs and of necessities, are learning much from the interim report of the Petrol Committee, recently published. Sir Marcus Samuel, Bart., is best known internationally of this group. He has been honored by the British, the French, the Belgian and the Japanese governments, the Emperor of Japan having made him Knight Commander of the Order of the Rising Sun. King Albert made him a Commander of the Order of Leopold of Belgium and France conferred the Legion of Honor on him. In 1911 he received the thanks of the British Admiralty for "services of the utmost importance rendered to the fighting forces."

Sir Samuel was Lord Mayor of London in 1903. He is chairman and managing director of the Shell Transport and Trading Company and chairman of the Anglo-Egyptian Petroleum Company, the Saxon Petroleum Company and the Asiatic Petroleum Company. He is considered the "Rockefeller of England."

Began as Private Concern.

The Shell Transport and Trading Company now has ramifications extending all over the world. It had its beginning in the working together for mutual benefit of several firms which had interests in the Far East. Registered in 1857, it was, for a long time, purely a private concern, and until its capital was increased shares were sold only to the public. The day after the largest importer of petrol for motors in Europe.

Another man prominent in the affairs of the Shell is H. W. A. Detering, who built his fortune as a well known to the public is Sir Marcus Samuel, is nevertheless a power in the petroleum business. He is managing director of the Asiatic Petroleum Company, which largely controls the Shell interests. He is a director in no less than five oil and petroleum concerns which are among the largest in the world.

Waley Cohen is another "Petrol Prince." He is a member of the board of directors of about twenty-five oil concerns and is managing director of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company.

Francis Powell is chairman of the Anglo-American Oil Company. He continues his energies to this company, but as a result is the largest oil company in the British petroleum market.

Sir Charles Greenway, chairman and managing director of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company and the Anglo-Persian Petroleum Company, was created a baronet in 1919. He is a member of the board of directors of the Burmah Oil Company, the Bakhtiari Oil Company and other large concerns.

BRITISH POUND NOTE
WORTH \$35 ON RHINE

Striking Illustration of Difference in Exchange.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

LONDON, April 17.—One of the boys with the British army of occupation on the Rhine has sent home the proceeds of a "Bradbury" (one pound note) as an illustration of the difference in exchange.

The exhibit consists of a leather case containing three pairs of first class scissors, a snuffbox, a watch, a pair of gloves, a real badger hair shaving brush, of most precious skin and several ornaments.

Taking the value of the Treasury note at 15 the yield represented a value according to English prices of at least \$35.

Restore Columbus Convent.

MADRID, April 17.—Restoration of the Franciscan Fathers of the Convent of La Rabida, near Palos, where Columbus sailed, is preparing for his voyage that resulted in the discovery of America, has been decided upon by the Government.

Duke Quits Cabbages
To Raise His Rents

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.
LONDON, April 17.—A luxuriant growth of cabbage adorns the Duke of Bedford's London estate. But the Duke has just learned that owing to the central location of his estate and despite the increased cost of living rentals are worth more than \$165,000 a year. Therefore he has decided to abandon gardening immediately for real estate.

AID PLANNED FOR
AMERICAN TOURISTS

French Will Open Offices in New York.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

PARIS, April 17.—Organized opposition to what is believed to be German propaganda to prevent American tourists from visiting France, is being organized by the French office of the National Touring Club here. Branch offices of this organization will be opened in New York City, other American cities, under the direction of the Compagnie Francaise de Tourisme, an outgrowth of the touring club, which was organized to promote American travel in France. This company will arrange for guides, engage hotel accommodations in advance, give information regarding American cemeteries and battle grounds in France and Belgium, and give prices and provide a new system of travellers' checks which will have a value not subject to exchange fluctuations.

Officers of the national musical directors are protesting against the attitude of German owned musical publications in the United States, which belittle the advantages offered by French musical schools. The directors anticipate authority from the Government to raise a loan of 30,000,000 francs to counteract the German movement.

W.C.T.U. WORKERS EAT
TRIFLE WITH SHERRY

British Innkeeper More Perturbed Than They.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

LONDON, April 17.—Within three days after landing in England several members of an American Women's Christian Temperance Union delegation have unwittingly partaken of a sip of "Demon Rum."

After the party left a hotel in Glasgow, where they had luncheon last Wednesday, the manager of the place exclaimed: "Good gracious, the trifle!" Questioned regarding the reason for his perturbation he replied: "I forgot that my women guests were prohibitionists and I put several glasses of fine old sherry in the trifle. I wonder how they liked it?"

Inquiries revealed that few of the women ate any of the trifle, however, some of them evidently being suspicious of the rich tasting dessert, while others ate their portion without discovering that there was wine in it.

CHINESE MINISTER
PRAISES EDUCATION

Glad America Opened Colleges to His Countrymen.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

PARIS, April 17.—The importance of cooperation in education was emphasized this week by Wellington Koo, the Chinese Minister in Washington and president of the Chinese peace delegation. At the inauguration of the new department of higher Chinese studies at the Sorbonne Minister Koo praised the United States and referred to the fact that the Chinese Government had sent students to American colleges and universities was made possible by the remission of the Boxer indemnities.

The Minister of our studies to the United States," he said, "has given China the means of understanding the American institutions and the American people, with the happy result of having a better appreciation of all the problems affecting nations."

ASSOCIATION ELECTS
PREMIER BY ONE VOTE

Pullhi Chairman Comes to Aid of Lloyd George.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

LONDON, April 17.—Premier David Lloyd George is president of the Pullhi, a group of Welsh Liberals, who are pronounced "Poots lally." The British Premier has been honorary president of the association for years and was elected automatically until this year, when a young Welshman ran against him and challenged the vote.

It was found that the vote was a tie. Only when the chairman cast his vote for the Pullhi did the Premier win.

Pullhi is a seaport of Wales on Cardigan Bay, nineteen miles southwest of Carmarvon. It forms a part of Premier Lloyd George's House of Commons constituency.

SEEKS NEW TRADE IN
ADVERSE EXCHANGE

France May Extend Activities of Commerce Agents.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

PARIS, April 17.—The novel suggestion of extending the corps of French commercial agents and attaches to include Scandinavian countries, Abyssinia, the Dutch Indies and South Africa, in order to take advantage of exchange adverse to France and thereby gain a footing in new markets, was proposed this week by Senator Mario Roustan.

M. Roustan points out that there is little transport difficulty with these countries which profess to favor French made articles against British or American manufactures. France already is provided with commercial agents in thirty countries, but in nearly all these the markets are swamped with goods of other allies.

FRANCE PLANS
TO SHARE IN BIG
WAR FORTUNES

New Tax Is to Force Profiteers to Disgorge Large Part of Their Wealth.

TO END SPENDING ORGIES
Five Billion Francs to Be Raised by Levy Additional to Luxuries.

By LAWRENCE HILLS.

Staff Correspondent of The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.
PARIS, April 17.—War profiteers and others who have amassed millions of francs will have to disgorge a large part of their wealth, and wild orgies of spending, which have characterized French life since the armistice, will have to cease if the radical taxation now being considered by the Government goes into effect.

Apparently the constant display in shop windows of silk stockings costing hundreds of francs, pairs of shoes which are almost twice as costly, and the steady increase in the price of foodstuffs has had no effect on the French public. Despite the high prices, which cause constant grumbling in all classes, it seems that the great spending epidemic, which the people here developed in the last year, remains and is as strong as ever. Now, however, the Government has decided to get some of this money before it is too late.

Even successful loans have failed to reduce this insatiable spending, and in some circles in Paris it is doubted whether the doubling of taxes will make the people return to their pre-war habits of thrift and industry.

Tentative measures by the Finance Commission of the Government for a revision of the nation's financial policy, it was learned, will include extraordinary levies with regard to income and increases in fortunes due to war profits, in some cases these increases in wealth amounting to as much as 80 per cent. as in January, 1914.

Schedules on real and personal property are expected to produce a tax revenue increase of \$900,000,000 francs a year. The proposed changes are expected to result from the new tariff on real estate of improved property. An eight per cent. tax is proposed on industrial improvements, six per cent. on professional profits and six, instead of the usual three per cent., on salaries in excess of \$9,000 francs a year.

The Commission also proposes penalties on all business concerns failing to give accurate returns if the yearly turnover is more than \$5,000 francs. The Commission also proposes a sliding scale of increases in anticipated turnovers ranging from 40,000 francs up to 1,000,000 francs a year, at which latter figure a forty per cent. tax represents the total levy. According to proponents of the scheme it will produce 1,350,000,000 francs yearly in new taxes on a January, 1914, basis.

In order to prevent yearly discussions it is proposed that the new taxes be in effect for the next five years, at the end of which time the condition of the budget will determine whether there will be an increase or decrease in the new taxes.

The tax on monthly revenue of all commercial and industrial enterprises does not provide for the relinquishment of the present 10 per cent. commercial tax, or "tax de luxe" of 10 per cent. or for the additional 10 per cent. tax on bachelors.

The proposal is regarded in French official circles as a serious effort to restore order out of the chaos of post-war conditions. Many counter proposals are being submitted, particularly from those persons who consider the present tax system a burden on the consumer. Socialists support a scheme by means of which nearly 80 per cent. of the revenue would be paid by the wealthy, and under the plan proposed by the commission less than 30 per cent. of the tax revenue would come from this source.

FRANCE TO AUGMENT
COTTON PRODUCTION

Government to Aid Planters in Camboje Region.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun and New York Herald, Copyright, 1920, by The Sun and New York Herald.

PARIS, April 17.—In the effort to increase the production of cotton in the region in western Africa, the French Government is planning to double the cotton acreage in the Niger and Senegal valleys during the coming year. It was also announced semi-officially that preparations have been started for the exploitation of 40,000 acres in the Camboje region in western Africa, which is a special department of the Pasteur Institute. The greatest difficulty heretofore has been the ravages of insects in French cotton growing zones. This latter phase it is proposed to be handled through a special department of the Pasteur Institute, while the purely agricultural question is to be solved by the increasing state support of the schools already started in the African colonies.